

The President's Daily Brief

14 October 1969

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~~Top Secret~~

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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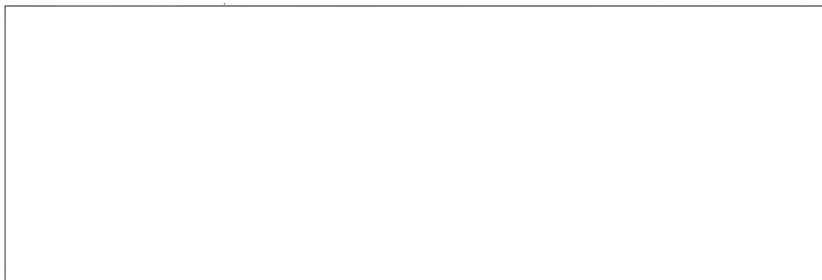
Husak reportedly goes to Moscow next Monday.
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The Portuguese military is pressing Prime Minister Caetano to return to more rigid policies at home and in Portuguese Africa. (Page 4)

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EAST GERMANY - WEST GERMANY



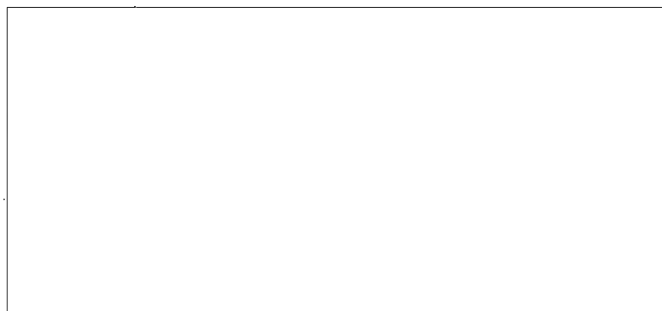
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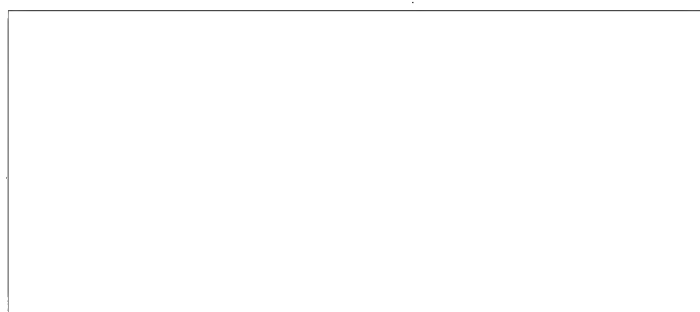
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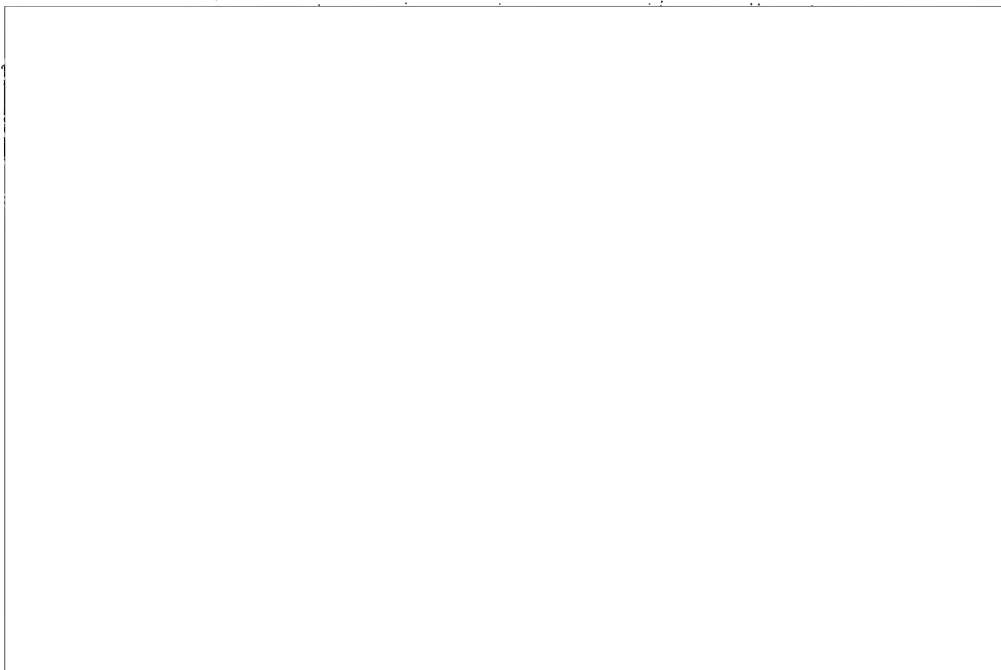


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SOVIET UNION

Recent satellite photography shows additional SS-11 strategic missile silos under construction at the Pervomaysk IRBM complex and the Derazhnya MRBM complex in the western USSR. So far four ten-silo groups have been identified under construction at Pervomaysk, and three at Derazhnya. One of the groups at Pervomaysk probably is operational, and two at Derazhnya soon will be. The others will take up to one year to complete.



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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Husak will head a delegation of the country's top leaders to Moscow next Monday for a one-week visit, according to a reliable source of the US Embassy in Moscow. The high-level composition of the group suggests that the talks will review what has been accomplished toward "normalization" and what needs to be done in the next few months.

The most pressing issues are factionalism within the Czechoslovak party, the holding of a party congress next year, the holding of national elections, and a long-deteriorating economy.

Husak, challenged by the growing influence of conservatives within his regime, will seek and probably will get a more open and direct endorsement of his leadership. If he succeeds, Czechoslovak leaders may also request a large credit from the USSR and more freedom to work out domestic problems in their own way.

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PORTUGAL

Prime Minister Caetano's small modifications of his government's hard-line policy in Africa and his slight relaxation of tight control during the election campaign this month have caused concern among the military. Our defense attache reports that Army Chief of Staff Deslandes, speaking for the armed forces, has warned President Thomaz that future government policy must include determination to hold the African territories as an integral part of Portugal, higher budget appropriations for military pay and equipment, and a tight rein on student or opposition demonstrations.

The military means business, and Caetano will have to defer, at least temporarily, his plans for gradual domestic autonomy for Angola, Mozambique, and Portuguese Guinea and his hope for better relations with black Africa.

The Portuguese are likely again to seek US backing for Lisbon's policy in Africa. If Azores base negotiations, in abeyance since the early 1960s, are reopened as suggested by Lisbon, they will provide a lever.

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